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ABSTRACT

The present invention provides isolated peptides relating to the autoimmune diseases pemphigus vulgaris and multiple sclerosis. The peptides relating to pemphigus vulgaris are self epitopes and those relating to multiple sclerosis are foreign antigens derived from human pathogens which are implicated in the aetiology and remissions of the disease. Pharamaceutical preparations for tolerizing and/or immunizing individuals are provided as well as methods relating thereto. Methods are provided for identifying other self and non-self epitopes involved in human autoimmune disease and similar pharamaceutical preparations and methods of use for these epitopes are also provided.